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REVISIONS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claims 10-12 and 18 have been amended, claims 13-17 and 19 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 20-26 have been added as follows:

10. (AMENDED) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

returning a portion of the expelled blood to another portion of the pump assist system [to perform] and thereby performing a rinsing function.

11. (AMENDED) A method of supplementing the blood flow from the heart of a patient using a pump assist system, the method comprising:

directing a first conduit into the left side of the heart,
coupling a second conduit in fluid communication with a superficial artery of the patient,
connecting a pump between the first and second conduits,
implanting the pump [within] in a superficial, subcutaneous chest region of the patient,
suctioning blood from the left side of the heart through the first conduit and into the pump, and
expelling the blood from the pump into the second conduit and the superficial artery.

12. (AMENDED) A system for supplementing blood flow from the heart of a patient, the system comprising:

a first conduit configured to be directed transeptally into the left side of the heart,

a second conduit configured to be coupled for fluid communication with a superficial artery of the patient, [and]

a third conduit,

a fourth conduit,

a pump configured to be superficially implanted within the patient and connected with the first and second conduits to suction blood from the first conduit and expel blood into the second conduit, and

a second pump connected with the first pump and operatively coupled to the third and fourth conduits for suctioning blood from the third conduit and expelling the blood into the fourth conduit.

Claims 13-17 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

18. (AMENDED) A system for supplementing blood flow from the heart of a patient, the system comprising:

a first conduit configured to be directed into the left side of the heart,

a second conduit configured to be coupled for fluid communication with an artery of the patient,

a pump configured to be implanted within the patient and connected with the first and second conduits to suction blood from the first conduit and expel blood into the second conduit, and

a return conduit coupled with an outlet of said pump and another portion of said system for returning a portion of blood expelled by said pump from the return conduit to said other [another] portion of said system.

Claim 19 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 20-26 have been added.